

REMARKS

Claims 17-23 and 25-27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 17 and 23 are amended.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments:

(a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; and (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 17-23 and 25-27 contain allowable subject matter.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) because the drawings do not allegedly show the "electric motor is mounted on the first drive assembly in such a way that the first drive assembly is guided above the running surfaces," of claim 17. In response to the objection, claim 17 is amended to replace "the first drive assembly" with "the electric motor," which is fully supported by Fig. 2, for example. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the drawings objection be withdrawn.

Claim 17 is objected to because it recites "arranged on the firs drive assembly." In response, based on the Examiner's suggestion, claim 17 is amended to replace "firs" with "first." Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the claim objection be withdrawn.

Claims 17-23 and 25-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement because claim 17 recites "electric motor is mounted on the first drive assembly in such a way that the first drive assembly is guided above the running surfaces," but the drawings and the specification allegedly illustrate that only the electric motor is guided above the running surfaces. In response to the rejection, based on the Examiner's suggestion, claim 17 is amended to recite the "electric motor is

mounted on the first drive assembly in such a way that the electric motor is guided above the running surfaces." Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

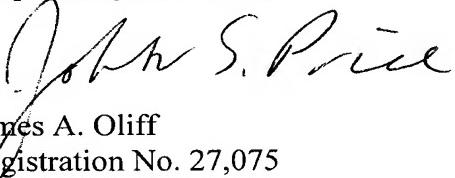
Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. The Office Action, on page 4, states that there is insufficient antecedent basis for "said running rollers," in claim 23. In response to the rejection, claim 23 is amended to replace "said running rollers" with "said supporting rollers." Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that amended independent claim 17 is allowable. It is also submitted that dependent claims 18-23 and 25-27 are allowable for at least their dependence on allowable claim 17, and their patentable distinct features recited therein. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

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